

03500.014744



PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

SHINYA YAMAMOTO, et al.

Application No.: 09/650,752

Filed: August 29, 2000

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS
COMPRISING MEANS FOR DETECTING
AN AMOUNT OF DEVELOPER CONTAINED
IN A DEVELOPER CONTAINER, A
MEMORY FOR STORING THE AMOUNT
DETECTED BY THE DETECTING MEANS,
AND CONTROL MEANS FOR UPDATING
THE INFORMATION STORED IN THE
MEMORY

Examiner: Q. Grainger

Group Art Unit: 2852

Notice of Allowance: April 18, 2003

Confirmation No. 2467

July 3, 2003

#17/IOS
Advised
9/24/03

MATCH & RETURN

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Issue Fee
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies the listed documents are also enclosed. These document were recently cited in the attached European Search Report issued in a foreign counterpart application on May 19, 2003.

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U.S. Patent No. 5,923,917 was cited in the October 4, 2001 Office Action, and therefore it is not being submitted herewith, and U.S. Patent Nos. 4,647,185 and 5,708,912 and the English Abstract of Japanese Laid-Open Patent No. 11-015252 are not being furnished herein, because these references were previously cited in the March 29, 2002 Information Disclosure Statement.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Each item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

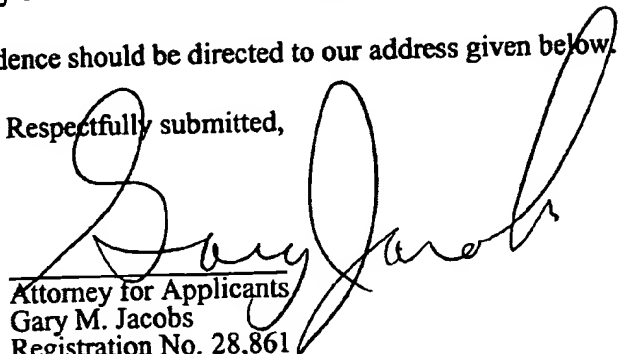
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants enclose a check for the required fee of \$180.00 to cover the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d).

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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